

Public Health Committee  
Public Hearing  
02.23.14

Kelly Trenholm- Health and Physical Education Teacher, Glastonbury

Dear Senator Gerratana and Representative Ritter and members of the Public Health Committee, my name is Kelly Trenholm. I am a resident of South Windsor. I am also a health and physical education teacher at Smith Middle School in Glastonbury.

I support Senate Bill 684, An Act Concerning Training in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and hope you will also. I believe it is important for all high school students to learn CPR in school. My enthusiasm for the bill comes from firsthand experience.

Over the years it has brought me great joy to watch hundreds my students show interest and commitment in learning how to administer CPR and use an AED machine to aid a person who may be in distress. This lesson is part of our Health Curriculum. They know this is a valuable lesson, as they may be the first responder in a cardiovascular situation at any given time. This responsibility is important to them and I feel extremely fortunate to be able to teach this critical life-saving lesson.

I feel all of Connecticut's students should have the opportunity to learn these valuable lessons. The more people know CPR and what an AED is used for the safer our communities will be. It is extremely gratifying to know that the members of our community are more likely to survive a cardiovascular emergency because of the experience these students have received in my classroom.

Please support Senate Bill 684 and please ensure that the bill includes language that requires students to experience doing chest compressions. I know from my own experience that kids retain information better when they get to actively perform an activity like pumping on a chest of a manikin.

Thank you

Kelly Trenholm